

## Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00  
INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03  
NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 HA-05 IO-13  
/078 W

-----032732 021432Z /43

O 021402Z DEC 77  
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4103  
INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA  
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR  
AMEMBASSY MANILA  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE  
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE  
CINCPAC HONOLULU  
AMCONSUL HONG KONG

S E C R E T BANGKOK 32519

NOFORN

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1  
TAGS: PDIP, OVIP, TH, VM  
SUBJECT: RTG-SRV ISSUE COMMUNIQUE ON NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS

REF: A. BANGKOK 31319 (NOTAL) B. BANGKOK 31446 (NOTAL)

1. BANGKOK AND HANOI ISSUED A COMMUNIQUE AT 6 PM BANGKOK  
TIME, DEC 2 ALONG FOLLOWING LINES:

RTG AMBASSADOR TO LAOS SETH HERABAT AND SRV AMBASSADOR  
TO LAOS DINH NGO LIEM HAVE HELD A SERIES OF TALKS IN VIENTIANE  
AS A RESULT OF WHICH THE RTG AND SRV HAVE AGREED THAT THE  
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AUGUST 6, 1976, COMMUNIQUE ISSUED IN HANOI BETWEEN THE  
TWO NATIONS CONSTITUTES THE BASIS FOR FRIENDLY RELATIONS  
BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES AND FOR THE FURTHERANCE OF  
PEACE IN SE ASIA. THE "TWO SIDES UNDERTOOK TO TAKE  
IMMEDIATE STEPS FOR NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS."

2. THAI OFFICIAL S HAVE REMAINED CRYPTIC ABOUT WHAT THE

"IMMEDIATE STEPS" REFERRED TO WILL BE BUT READ MAJOR IMPORTANCE INTO THE ANNOUNCEMENT. HOWEVER, BANGKOK DIPLOMATIC CIRCLES AND THE PRESS HAVE AWAITED SINCE LAST WEEK THE "MAJOR FOREIGN POLICY ANNOUNCEMENT" TO WHICH PM KRIANGSAK HAD ALLUDED WITH DIPLOMATS AND THE PRESS FOR THE PAST WEEK. THE ANNOUNCEMENT WAS WIDELY EXPECTED TO BE THE RESUMPTION OF FULL DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BETWEEN HANOI AND BANGKOK AND THE EARLY EXCHANGE OF ENVOYS.

3. ON NOV 30, A SENIOR THAI OFFICIAL TOLD THE CHARGE THAT AGREEMENT WITH THE VIETNAMESE WAS NEAR ON INITIAL STEPS TOWARD NORMALIZATION. HE SAID THAT THE RTG HOPED THAT AFTER THE DECEMBER ONE FORMAL POLICY STATEMENT, EMPHASIZING THE THAI DESIRE FOR NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS WITH THE INDOCHINESE COMMUNIST STATES, THERE WOULD BE AN EARLY ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE COMMUNIQUE AND INTENDED EXCHANGE OF ENVOYS.

4. SAME OFFICIAL NOTED ALSO THAT THE RTG WAS TRYING TO ARRANGE A BANGKOK STOPOVER AND MEETING WITH SRV FONMIN NGUYEN DUY TRINH WHO IS LATER THIS MONTH PLANNING TO VISIT SOME OF THE ASEAN STATES. HOWEVER, OFFICIAL CAUTIONED THAT NEGOTIATIONS WITH VIETNAMESE WERE STILL GOING ON AND FINAL AGREEMENT HAD NOT YET BEEN REACHED.

5. WE WILL BE DISCUSSING WITH MFA THE STATE OF PLAY OF THE NEGOTIATIONS AS WELL AS THE MEANING OF REFERENCE TO  
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"IMMEDIATE STEPS". HOWEVER, OUR INITIAL IMPRESSION IS THAT JOINT COMMUNIQUE ITSELF IS LESS THAN THAIS HOPED FOR BUT, NEVERTHELESS, IS A BREAKTHROUGH WHICH THE RTG HOPES WILL BE FOLLOWED SOON BY MORE DRAMATIC STEPS TOWARD NORMALIZATION.  
O'DONOHUE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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